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CENTRAL FAX CENTER****FEB 28 2008****FAX TRANSMISSION****DATE:** February 28, 2008**PTO IDENTIFIER:** Application Number 10/528,362-Conf. #5029
Patent Number**Inventor:** Teiji SUZUKI et al.**MESSAGE TO:** US Patent and Trademark Office**FAX NUMBER:** (571) 273-8300**FROM:** BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

J. Mark Konieczny

PHONE: (703) 205-8000**Attorney Dkt. #:** 4379-0176PUS1**PAGES (Including Cover Sheet):** 11**CONTENTS:**Fax Cover Sheet (1 page)
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Amendment Transmittal (1 page)
Amendment in Response to Non-Final Office Action (8 pages)

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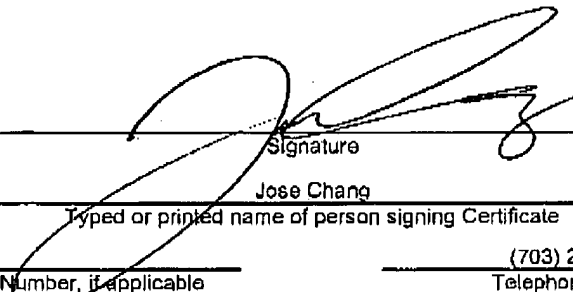
Application No. (if known): 10/528,362

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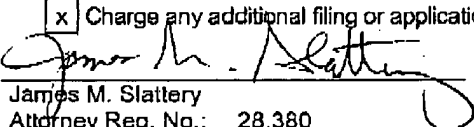
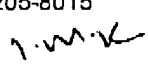
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FEB 28 2008

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER			Docket No. 4379-0176PUS1		
Application No. 10/528,362-Conf. #5029	Filing Date March 18, 2005	Examiner Jie Yang	Art Unit 1793		
Applicant(s): Teiji SUZUKI et al.					
Invention: METHOD OF NITRIDING METAL RING APPARATUS THEREFOR					
MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450					
Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.					
The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.					
CLAIMS AS AMENDED					
	Claims Remaining After Amendment	Highest Number Previously Paid	Number Extra Claims Present	Rate	
Total Claims	9	- 20 =	0	x 50.00	0.00
Independent Claims	2	- 3 =	0	x 210.00	0.00
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>					
Other fee (please specify):					
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT:					0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Large Entity <input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No additional fee is required for this amendment.					
<input type="checkbox"/> Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of \$ _____. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.					
<input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$ _____ is enclosed.					
<input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. <u>02-2448</u> as described below. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Credit any overpayment.					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charge any additional filing or application processing fees required under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17.					
 James M. Slattery Attorney Reg. No.: 28,380			Dated: <u>February 28, 2008</u>		
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP 8110 Gatehouse Road Suite 100 East P.O. Box 747 Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747 (703) 205-8015 					

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Docket No.: 4379-0176PUS1
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Teiji SUZUKI et al.

Application No.: 10/528,362

Confirmation No.: 5029

Filed: March 18, 2005

Art Unit: 1793

For: METHOD OF NITRIDING METAL RING
APPARATUS THEREFOR

Examiner: Jie Yang

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated November 28, 2007, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.

Birch, Stewart, Kolasch & Birch, LLP

JMS/JMK/jmc